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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 31, 1985 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 26 totaled an estimated 15.6 billion ton-miles, 12.8 percent below the corresponding week of 1984, the Association of American Railroads reported today. The 1985 week was affected by adverse weather conditions in various parts of the country.

Cumulative volume for the first four weeks of 1985 was an estimated 61.6 billion ton-miles, down 7.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended January 26 totaled 327,819, down 15.2 percent from last year, and 10.0 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 23.0 percent in the East, 17.3 percent in the South, and 9.1 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, all of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. Eighteen of 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 19 totaled 51,119 cars, up 8.5 percent from the corresponding week of 1984, and 81,277 trailers and/or containers, 1.5 percent below last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first three weeks of the year was 134,752 cars, up 1.7 percent from last year, and 218,324 trailers and/or containers, down 6.6 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 01/26/85:

	Loadings in Week ended Jan. 26, 1985		Change from Corresponding Week 1984			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	24,113	D	7,376	23.4	D	2,858	10.6
Other farm products	4,275	D	1,054	19.8	D	804	15.8
Metallic ores	10,267	D	2,428	19.1	I	805	8.5
Coal	85,100	D	22,893	21.2	D	18,637	18.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	7,161	D	788	9.9	D	1,544	17.7
Nonmetallic minerals	8,999	D	2,621	22.6	D	111	1.2
Grain mill products	10,422	D	1,922	15.6	D	451	4.1
Food and kindred products	10,744	D	353	3.2	D	150	1.4
Primary forest products	11,120	D	1,752	13.6	D	1,979	15.1
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,903	D	616	8.2	I	40	0.6
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,759	D	1,501	9.8	D	921	6.3
Chemicals and allied products	24,038	D	1,649	6.4	D	883	3.5
Petroleum products	4,596	D	713	13.4	D	231	4.8
Stone, clay and glass products	8,377	D	710	7.8	D	915	9.8
Coke	3,862	D	668	14.7	D	1,186	23.5
Metals and products	7,145	D	2,355	24.8	D	554	7.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,648	D	100	0.5	D	2,086	9.2
Waste and scrap materials	7,372	D	2,866	28.0	D	1,535	17.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	6,335	D	2,440	27.8	D	64	1.0
All other carloads	52,417	D	3,949	7.0	D	2,587	4.7
LCL traffic	166	D	152	47.8	I	34	25.8
Total Cars Loaded	327,819	D	58,906	15.2	D	36,617	10.0
Corresponding week of 1984	386,725						

	1985	1984	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (4 weeks)	1,326,027	1,439,813	D 7.9
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
Week ended January 19	46.0	48.5	D 5.0
Week ended January 26	15.6	17.9	D 12.8
4 weeks cumulative	61.6	66.3	D 7.1

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